

Claims:

What is claimed is:

- 1 **1.** A method of attaching supplemental hair to natural human hair
2 comprising the steps of:
3 selecting a plurality of strands of human hair growing from a scalp;
4 directly contacting a glued portion of a supplemental hair bundle with a
5 heating element and fusing the glued portion to change the glued
6 portion from a solidified state to a workable viscosity, wherein the
7 supplemental hair bundle includes a plurality of supplemental
8 hair strands glued to one another at the glued portion by
9 thermoplastic glue; and
10 clamping the glued portion of the supplemental hair bundle together
11 with the selected plurality of strands of human hair using the
12 heating element and allowing mixing of the thermoplastic glue with
13 the plurality of strands of human hair.
- 1 **2.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim **1** further
2 including the step of forming a joint between the strands of human hair
3 and the supplemental hair bundle and directly contacting the joint
4 with the heating element.
- 1 **3.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim **1**
2 wherein the step of directly contacting a glued portion of a
3 supplemental hair bundle with a heating element and fusing the glued
4 portion further includes directly contacting a glued portion of a
5 supplemental hair bundle with a heating channel of a heated jaw of a
6 supplemental hair applicator and fusing the glued portion.

- 1 **4.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim 1 further
2 including the step of kneading a joint between the selected plurality of
3 strands of human hair and the glued portion by pressing a convex
4 kneading ridge on a kneading jaw to extend into a concave heating
5 channel to mix strands of human hair, supplemental hair strands, and
6 thermoplastic glue.

- 1 **5.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim 3
2 wherein the heating channel has a shape that matches a shape of the
3 glued portion of the supplemental hair bundle.

- 1 **6.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim 1 further
2 including the step of clamping the glued portion of the supplemental
3 hair bundle while in the solidified state to the selected plurality of
4 strands of human hair using the heating element and fusing the glued
5 portion.

- 1 **7.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim 1
2 wherein the step of clamping the glued portion of a supplemental hair
3 bundle together with the selected plurality of strands of human hair
4 further includes kneading the fused glue in the glued portion of the
5 supplemental hair bundle while the glued portion is in contact with the
6 selected plurality of strands of human hair by closing a kneading jaw of
7 a supplemental hair applicator so that a kneading ridge on a kneading
8 jaw moves toward a heating channel on a heating jaw and contacts the
9 glued portion and the selected plurality of strands of human hair.

- 1 **8.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim 1
2 wherein the glued portion of the supplemental hair bundle is
3 cylindrically shaped at one end of the supplemental hair bundle, and
4 wherein the heating channel of the heated jaw of the supplemental hair
5 applicator is concave to receive the cylindrically shaped end of the
6 supplemental hair bundle.

- 1 **9.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim **8**
2 wherein the step of fusing a glued portion of a supplemental hair
3 bundle further includes the step of applying heat along a length of a
4 portion of half of a lateral face of the cylindrically shaped glued portion
5 of the supplemental hair bundle.
- 1 **10.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim **1**
2 wherein the step of contacting the glued portion of the supplemental
3 hair bundle together with the selected plurality of strands of human
4 hair further includes the step of mixing fused glue in the glued portion
5 of the supplemental hair bundle and supplemental hair strands into
6 the selected plurality of strands of human hair.
- 1 **11.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim **1**
2 wherein the step of clamping the glued portion of the supplemental hair
3 bundle together with the selected plurality of strands of human hair
4 further includes the step of clamping the glued portion of the
5 supplemental hair bundle to the selected plurality of strands of human
6 hair at a point near the scalp.
- 1 **12.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim **1**
2 wherein the step of fusing the glued portion of a supplemental hair
3 bundle further includes the step of fusing the glued portion of a
4 supplemental hair bundle while the supplemental hair bundle is in
5 contact with the selected plurality of strands of human hair.
- 1 **13.** The method of attaching supplemental hair according to claim **4** further
2 including the step of simultaneously heating the thermoplastic glue and
3 kneading the supplemental hair bundle while the supplemental hair
4 bundle is in contact with the selected plurality of strands of human
5 hair.

1 **14.** A method of making a bundle of supplemental hair comprising the
2 steps of:

3 fusing thermoplastic glue in a glue reservoir;

4 submerging a portion of a rotating cylinder in the thermoplastic glue in
5 the glue reservoir so that a film of fused thermoplastic glue coats a
6 non-submerged portion of the rotating cylinder;

7 selecting a plurality of strands of supplemental hair, wherein the
8 strands are substantially parallel and contacting adjacent strands;
9 and

10 applying the thermoplastic glue to a portion of plurality of strands of
11 supplemental hair by touching the portion of plurality of strands of
12 supplemental hair to the film of fused thermoplastic glue on the
13 rotating cylinder.

1 **15.** The method of making a bundle of supplemental hair according to
2 claim **14** further including the step of kneading the fused thermoplastic
3 glue to form a glue slug that coats one end of each strand of
4 supplemental hair of the plurality of strands of supplemental hair.

1 **16.** The method of making a bundle of supplemental hair according to
2 claim **14** wherein the step of selecting a plurality of strands of
3 supplemental hair further includes aligning one end of each strand of
4 supplemental hair with one end of other strands of the plurality of
5 strands of supplemental hair.

1 **17.** A supplemental hair applicator comprising:

2 a heated jaw having a heating channel recessed in an inside surface of
3 the heated jaw for receiving and applying heat to a bundle of
4 supplemental hair, wherein the heated channel has a channel
5 length substantially equal to the length of the glued portion of the
6 bundle of supplemental hair; and

7 a kneading jaw moveably connected to the heated jaw for moving
8 between an open position and a closed position, wherein the
9 kneading jaw includes a kneading ridge that extends above an
10 inside surface of the kneading jaw, and when in the closed
11 position, the kneading ridge extends past the inside surface of the
12 heated jaw into the heated channel, wherein the kneading ridge is
13 adapted to apply force in an opposing relationship to the heating
14 channel to distribute fused glue among a selected plurality of
15 strands of human hair and a plurality of supplemental hair
16 strands.

1 **18.** The supplemental hair applicator of claim **17** further including:

2 a heated jaw arm for supporting the heated jaw, the heated jaw arm
3 having a jaw end and a pivot end; and

4 a kneading jaw arm for supporting the kneading jaw, the kneading jaw
5 arm having a jaw end and a pivot end, and

6 a hinge connected to the pivot ends of the heated jaw arm and kneading
7 jaw arm.

1 **19.** The supplemental hair applicator of claim **17** wherein the heating
2 channel length and a length of the kneading ridge is about 0.5 inches.

1 **20.** The supplemental hair applicator of claim **17** wherein the heated jaw
2 and the kneading jaw are coated with a material that resists sticking to
3 thermoplastic glue.

- 1 **21.** The supplemental hair applicator of claim **17** wherein the heating
2 channel is generally perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the heated
3 jaw.

1 **22.** A kit for attaching supplemental hair to natural human hair
2 comprising:

3 a plurality of supplemental hair bundles, wherein each of the
4 supplemental hair bundles includes a plurality of supplemental
5 hair strands previously glued to one another at a glued portion by
6 thermoplastic glue; and

7 a supplemental hair applicator having:

8 a heated jaw having a heating channel recessed in an inside
9 surface of the heated jaw for receiving and applying heat to
10 one of the supplemental hair bundles, wherein the heated
11 channel has a channel length substantially equal to the
12 length of the glued portion of the supplemental hair bundle;
13 and

14 a kneading jaw moveably connected to the heated jaw for moving
15 between an open position and a closed position, wherein the
16 kneading jaw includes a kneading ridge that extends above
17 an inside surface of the kneading jaw, and when in the closed
18 position, the kneading ridge extends past the inside surface of
19 the heated jaw into the heated channel, wherein the kneading
20 ridge is adapted to apply force in an opposing relationship to
21 the heating channel to distribute fused glue among a selected
22 plurality of strands of human hair and the plurality of
23 supplemental hair strands.

1 **23.** The kit for attaching supplemental hair according to claim **22** wherein
2 the heating channel has a shape that matches a shape of the glued
3 portion of the supplemental hair bundle.

- 1 **24.** The kit for attaching supplemental hair according to claim **22** wherein
2 the supplemental hair applicator includes:
- 3 a heated jaw arm for supporting the heated jaw, the heated jaw arm
4 having a jaw end and a pivot end;
- 5 a kneading jaw arm for supporting the kneading jaw, the kneading jaw
6 arm having a jaw end and a pivot end, and
- 7 a hinge connected to the pivot ends of the heated jaw arm and kneading
8 jaw arm.